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NEWS RELEASE

Sheep and Goats
January 27, 2006

Sheep and Goats

North Dakota

All sheep and lamb inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2006 totaled 104,000 head, down 1 percent from the previous year's 105,000 head, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This is the second smallest flock since records began in 1920.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased 5,000 head to 76,000, the second lowest level since records began in 1905. Ewes one year old and older, at 59,000 head, were down 4,000 head from the previous year. Rams, at 2,000 head, were unchanged from the previous two years. Replacement lambs totaled 15,000 head, down 1,000 head from a year earlier.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 28,000 head, up from 24,000 head on January 1, 2005. Only 1,000 head were mature sheep (1 year old and older) and the remaining 27,000 were lambs under 1 year. Sixty-five percent of the market lambs weighed 85 pounds or more, down from 70 percent last year. Market lambs by weight group were estimated as follows: 4,500 were under 65 pounds; 5,000 were 65-84 pounds; 8,000 were 85-105 pounds; 9,500 were over 105 pounds.

The 2005 lamb crop totaled 85,000 head, down 3 percent from the previous year but equal to 2003. The 2005 lambing rate was 135 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, compared with 149 per 100 ewes in 2004.

Shorn wool production during 2005 was 690,000 pounds, down 7 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 78,000 head, down from 82,000 head during 2004. Average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.60 per pound, down from \$0.75 per pound in 2004. The total value of wool was \$414,000, down 26 percent from \$559,000 in 2004.

All meat and other goat and kid inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2006, totaled 2,500 head, up 150 head from January 1, 2005. This is the first time North Dakota goat data are published in the *Sheep and Goats* release. For angora and milk goats, North Dakota data are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

United States

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 6.23 million head, up 2 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The inventory began increasing in 2005 and has shown two consecutive year to year increases for the first time since 1987 and 1988.

Breeding sheep inventory increased to 4.64 million head on January 1, 2006, up 2 percent from 4.53 million head on January 1, 2005. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.66 million head, were 2 percent above last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2006, totaled 1.59 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 35 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

The 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. The 2005 lambing rate was 115 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, up 2 percent from 2004.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2005 was 37.2 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2004. The average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.71 per pound for a total value of 26.3 million dollars, down 12 percent from 29.9 million dollars in 2004.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. **Breeding goat** inventory totaled 2.35 million head up 4 percent from 2005. **All market goats and kids** totaled 471,800 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2006 **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.26 million head, up 5 percent from 2005. **Milk goat** inventory increased 1 percent to 288,000 head while **angora goats** were down 1 percent totaling 278,000 head. The 2005 **kid crop** totaled 1.84 million head for all goats, up 4 percent from 2004.

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**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class and Lamb Crop
North Dakota and United States, January 1, 2005-2006**

Class	North Dakota		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head
All Sheep and Lambs	105.0	104.0	6,135.0	6,230.0
Total Market	24.0	28.0	1,602.0	1,591.0
Lambs	23.0	27.0	1,527.9	1,515.0
Under 65 Pounds	3.0	4.5	413.2	416.3
65 to 84 Pounds	4.0	5.0	214.7	210.4
85 to 105 Pounds	7.0	8.0	381.9	362.4
Over 105 Pounds	9.0	9.5	518.1	525.9
Sheep	1.0	1.0	74.1	76.0
Total Breeding	81.0	76.0	4,533.0	4,639.0
Ewes, One Year and Older	63.0	59.0	3,572.5	3,657.0
Rams, One Year and Older	2.0	2.0	190.0	196.0
Replacement Lambs	16.0	15.0	770.5	786.0
Lamb Crop ^{1/}	88.0	85.0	4,096.0	4,125.0
From Breeding Ewes 1 yr + Jan 1 ^{1/}	59.0	63.0	3,609.5	3,572.5
Rate Per 100 Ewes 1 yr ^{1/}	149	135	113	115

^{1/} Preceding year.

**Wool: Production, Price and Value
Selected States and United States, 2004-2005**

State	Sheep Shorn ^{1/}		Weight per Fleece		Production		Price per Pound		Value	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Cents	Cents	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
North Dakota	82	78	9.1	8.8	745	690	75	60	559	414
California	480	500	7.1	7.0	3,400	3,500	82	70	2,788	2,450
Colorado	390	420	6.6	6.3	2,570	2,650	85	63	2,185	1,670
Minnesota	140	150	6.5	6.5	910	970	37	38	337	369
Montana	267	260	9.3	9.6	2,472	2,490	117	98	2,892	2,440
South Dakota	345	330	7.6	7.8	2,610	2,582	72	60	1,879	1,549
Texas	810	800	6.9	6.9	5,600	5,550	102	96	5,712	5,328
Wyoming	390	380	9.3	9.3	3,640	3,530	117	100	4,259	3,530
United States	5,073.0	5,072.0	7.4	7.3	37,622	37,232	80	71	29,921	26,272

^{1/} Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

January 27, 2006

~ Compiled and Published by ~

USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

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